



CITY OF AKRON, OHIO
POLICE DIVISION
AUGUSTUS A. HALL, CHIEF OF POLICE

NUMBER P-2009-024	EFFECTIVE DATE December 23, 2009	RESCINDS P-2007-024 Issued 12-31-07
SUBJECT Stakeout Procedure		ISSUING AUTHORITY Chief Augustus A. Hall

I. POLICY

All officers will be familiar with what constitutes a stakeout and the proper steps to be taken when engaging in a stakeout.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. Surveillance – The covert and continuing observation of persons, vehicles, places, or objects. The primary objective of a surveillance is to obtain information concerning the activities and identities of individuals.
- B. Stakeout – The specific assignment to conduct a surveillance of an area or premises where there is a high probability based on reliable information that criminal activity will occur or a wanted subject may appear. The primary objective of a stakeout is to effect an arrest.
- C. Random stakeouts – Used for crime prevention purposes based upon crime patterns.
- D. Information stakeouts – Based on information received where there is strong reason to believe that a crime will occur or a wanted subject will appear.

III. PROCEDURE

- A. All stakeouts require the participation of a supervisory officer.
- B. All stakeouts require prior approval of the requesting officer's subdivision commander, or in his absence, an on duty shift commander assigned to that subdivision.
- C. Any secondary employment that would involve an officer to remain concealed on the premises to deter armed robberies requires that a written request for approval be submitted to the officer's subdivision commander prior to accepting such employment.

D. TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 1. All officers involved in a stakeout shall wear department issued body armor.
- 2. Officers involved in a stakeout shall be readily identifiable as an Akron police officer upon approaching a suspect.

3. A stakeout team shall be instructed to intervene and make an arrest, when conditions permit, as soon as the suspect performs an overt act in the commission of a crime. If circumstances do not permit early intervention, the officer must continue to investigate and arrest after the crime has been committed.

E. PRE-STAKEOUT CONFERENCES

1. Attendance at a pre-stakeout conference is required and will include the appointment of a stakeout commander.
2. The conference should set forth the principal goals to be achieved and the general alternatives available in the event some type of an emergency develops. The duty of each officer should be specifically defined.
3. Enough time should be allotted to the conference to avoid the atmosphere of haste.
4. Specific instructions should be given regarding any undercover or plainclothes officers who may be in the area during the stakeout.
5. Communication signals should be devised and understood by all participants. A designated radio channel shall be used and restricted from all officers not involved in the operation.

F. NOTIFICATIONS

1. The on duty supervisor in the Safety Communications Center shall be notified of any stakeout operation and advised of its confidentiality. Whenever possible, he will monitor the designated channel.
2. A detailed report shall be submitted to the subdivision commander at the conclusion of each operation by an organized stakeout team.

- G. Nothing in this procedure is intended to encumber patrol officers, detectives, vice squad officers, narcotics officers, or any other officers from performing their normal, routine duties.

By Order Of,



Augustus A. Hall
Chief of Police

Date 12-10-09